

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Coeur d'Alene 415-5200

www2.state.id.us/phd1

(serving Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai and Shoshone counties)

Lewiston 799-3100

www.ncdhd.us/

(serving Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties)

Caldwell 459-0744

www.publichealthidaho.com/

(serving Adams, Canyon, Gem, Owyhee, Payette and Washington counties)

Boise 375-5211

www.cdhd.idaho.gov/

(serving Ada, Boise, Elmore and Valley counties)

Twin Falls 734-5900

www.phd5.idaho.gov/

(serving Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, and Twin Falls counties)

Pocatello 233-9080

www.sdhdidaho.org/

(serving Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Franklin, Oneida, and Power counties)

Idaho Falls 522-0310

www.idaho.gov/phd7

(serving Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton counties)

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE

Bureau of Community and Environmental Health

1-866-240-3553

bceh@dhw.idaho.gov



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICES

State office, Boise, 373-0502, www.deq.idaho.gov/

Coeur d'Alene regional office, 769-1422

(serving Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, and Shoshone counties)

Lewiston regional office, 799-4370

(serving Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties)

Boise regional office, 373-0550

(serving Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington counties)

Twin Falls regional office, 736-2190

(serving Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, and Twin Falls counties)

Pocatello regional office, 236-6160

(serving Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Franklin, Oneida, and Power counties)

Idaho Falls regional office, 528-2650

(serving Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison and Teton counties)

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

Ground Water Protection Section, Boise: 287-4800

www.idwr.idaho.gov

Northern Region, Coeur d'Alene: 769-1450

Eastern Region, Idaho Falls: 525-7161

Southern Region, Twin Falls: 736-3033

Western Region, Boise: 334-2190

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Water Program

Boise Office 332-8597

www.agri.idaho.gov

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IT WILL NEVER BE THIS OBVIOUS



FOUR STEPS TO WELL WATER SAFETY

Private wells can provide a clean, safe source of water if they are properly located, built, and maintained. The location and installation of a well is crucial to protecting water from contamination. Because many factors determine the best place to locate a well, it is recommended that a certified well water driller perform the job.

To find certified local water-well contractors in your area, call the national Ground Water Association at 800-551-7379 or visit their website at www.ngwa.org.

1 HAVE YOUR WATER TESTED

As a private well owner, it is your responsibility to make sure that your water is safe to use. Pollution from sources such as septic systems, farm animals, farm chemicals and naturally occurring chemicals can contaminate your well. At high levels, pollution in your well water can put your family's and animals' health at risk. If you have any question about the safety of your well water, you should have your well water tested.

You can have your well water tested at a certified lab. Lab staff will tell you when and how to collect your water sample. For a list of labs, contact your regional Idaho Department of Environmental Quality office (numbers are on back of this brochure).

2 UNDERSTAND THE RESULTS OF THE TESTING

Once you have had your well water tested and received the results, you will need to understand the results. Many times the lab that does the testing will explain if your well water poses any health concerns. If you still have questions after speaking to the lab, you can contact your local health department who should be able to help you interpret well testing results and assist you with any additional questions you may have (local health department numbers are on back of this brochure).

3 FIX ANY PROBLEMS

If you learn your well water is polluted, fix the problem as soon as possible. You may need to disinfect your water, have a new well drilled, replumb or repair your system. Consult a certified well water driller for help. You might consider installing a water treatment device to remove pollutants. There are many home water treatment devices. Different types remove different pollutants. No one device does it all. Get a copy of the Environmental Protection Agency's "Home Water Treatment Units" pamphlet by calling (800) 426-4791.

4 MAINTAIN YOUR WELL

Annual well maintenance is essential to keep your water safe. Well owners are encouraged to perform an annual water test, periodically check to make sure their well is functioning properly, and repair their system as soon as a problem is discovered. Proper well maintenance should include checking the well covering, casing, and well cap for cracks and other entry points for potential pollutants. Every 10 years have the pump, storage tank, pipes and valves, and water flow inspected by a certified well water driller. When the well is no longer in use, make sure to properly close the old well to help prevent the contamination of the water table.

To help keep track of maintenance, it is recommended that you create and maintain a "well maintenance log." The log should include the location of the well, construction and contractor details, as well as results of any water tests.

